

D - Remarks

Claims 15-27, 29, 33 and 35 have been cancelled. Claims 28, 30-31, 34 and 36-37 have been amended based on specification page 4. Claims 32 and 38-40 remain in this application as originally filed.

Priority

This application corresponds to the U.S. national phase of International Application No. PCT/EP00/07284. The priority document was provided to the receiving office and transmitted to the International Bureau as shown by the copy of the Form PCT/IB/304 enclosed. According to PCT Rule 17(2), the International Bureau provides a copy of the priority document to the designated offices and no designated office shall ask the applicant himself to provide such copy. It is therefore assumed that the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 119(b) have actually been fulfilled.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

Following the amendment of claim 28, it is believed that this objection has been overcome.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

The Examiner rejects claim 28, 29 and 31-35 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Barber et al. (US Patent 6,047,240).

Applicant respectfully disagrees since it appears that Barber et al. relates to a method for determining parameters of a formation that significantly differs from the method of the invention.

Actually, Barber describes a method of getting an estimate of the actual formation parameters R_{xo} , R_i and d_i (invasion radius) that is essentially based on the assumption that the shoulder bed effect and the invasion effect are independent. Consequently, each effect is independently corrected. This point is made clear for instance from column 7, lines 6-9, where it is explained that the correction consists in sequentially applying the maximum entropy inversion process (as schematized by the flowchart of figure 5) followed by 1D radial inversion. This is actually what is often referred in this art as a 1D+1D correction.

According to the invention on the other hand, the correction of the shoulder bed effect and of the invasion effect are done simultaneously, in other words, all parameters are simultaneously updated. This leads to a correction method that provides formation parameters closer to the reality, in particular with some measuring tools such as a Laterolog. Moreover, the number of iteration is reduced since in reality, the shoulder bed effect and the invasion effect are indeed not independent.

It results from the above that Barber et al. does not anticipate the invention.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

Barber et al. is prior art under 102(e). A terminal disclaimer is hereby enclosed to obviate any double patenting rejection over the Barber et al. prior art.

The Applicant believes that amendments to the claims deal with all outstanding matters, raise no new matter issues and place the application in order for allowance. Favorable reconsideration on the basis of these amendments and remarks is requested. In the event that the Examiner intends to maintain any rejection, it is requested that these amendments be entered in order to place the application in better state for appeal.

Respectfully submitted

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Date of mailing (day/month/year) 11 July 2001 (11.07.01)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
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Applicant SCHLUMBERGER TECHNOLOGY B.V. et al	

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<u>Priority date</u>	<u>Priority application No.</u>	<u>Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office</u>	<u>Date of receipt of priority document</u>
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